

PATENT
USSN 10/044,692
TTC Docket 002640US
Geron Docket 018/213c

REMARKS

This paper is supplemental to the Amendment filed November 10, 2005, which was responsive to the last Office Action on the merits, dated April 21, 2005, and to the Supplemental Amendments filed April 3, 2006 and May 18, 2006.

Claims 1, 10-15, 19-33, 39-43, and 47-57 were previously pending in this application, with claims 11-15 withdrawn from examination. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 11-15 are newly cancelled, and claims 58-70 are added. The new claims fall in the group under examination. The markings in the claims shown above are changes made from the claims as presented in the paper filed on May 18, 2006.

Accordingly, claims 1, 10, 19-33, 39-43, and 47-70 are pending and under examination.

Further consideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested, in view of the amendments and remarks made on November 10, April 3, May 18, and herein.

New claims

The pending claims stand rejected under the written description and enablement requirements of 35 USC § 112 ¶ 1 for reading on nucleic acids encoding a hTERT fragment optionally concatenated at either end with additional protein sequence. For reasons explained in previous papers, applicants maintain that claims 1, 10-15, 19-33, 39-43, and 47-57 comply with § 112 ¶ 1 in all respects.

New claims 58-70 are based closely on the wording of the previous claims, except that the polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid is explicitly referred to as *consisting of* a consecutive amino acid sequence taken from SEQ. ID NO:2. Specifically, claims 58-61 are supported by previous claims 33, 21, and 24; claims 62-64 are supported by previous claims 1, 21, and 24; claims 63-68 are supported by previous claims 48-55; and claims 69-70 are supported by previous claims 55-56.

Since the encoded polypeptide of claims 58-70 is explicitly referred to as *consisting of* a portion of SEQ. ID NO:2, these claims are believed to be free of the concerns raised in the last Office Action under § 112 ¶ 1.

Allowance of the new claims is respectfully requested.

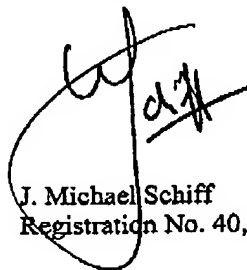
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Fees Due

Enclosed with this Amendment is authorization to charge applicant's deposit account with the fee for the added claims.

Should the Patent Office determine that an extension of time or any other relief is required for further consideration of this application, applicants hereby petition for such relief, and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and other fees due in connection with the filing of these papers to Deposit Account No. 07-1139, referencing the docket numbers indicated above.

Respectfully submitted,



J. Michael Schiff
Registration No. 40,253

GERON CORPORATION
230 Constitution Drive
Menlo Park, CA 94025
Telephone: (650) 473-7715
Fax: (650) 473-8654

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